

Intervention Gallery

at the Anglican chapel, Kensal Green Cemetery
Harrow Road, London W10 4RA

CONTINUUM

PHOTOGRAPHY, SPACE AND TIME

EXHIBITION DATES: 12 MARCH – 17 APRIL

OPENING HOURS: SAT & SUN 12-4 PM

PRIVATE VIEW: FRIDAY 11 MARCH 6-9 PM

Intervention Gallery is delighted to launch its 2011 season with the photography group show *Continuum*, curated by Kerim Aytac and Jeff Vanderpool. This project is one of the new Emerge Arts Activists Commissions, supported by Arts Council England Grants for the Arts and The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea Arts Grants Scheme. All work will be projected as slide shows in order to engage with the presentation of photography in a time-based format.

Continuum is a response to the challenge of showing work within such a distinctive historic space as Intervention Gallery: a disused chapel in the heart of a cemetery. As the building is listed, no work can be hung from the walls, which challenges a traditional curatorial approach. As exhibited photographers themselves, the curators are well aware of the challenges faced when trying to communicate the meaning of a photographic project on the sterile walls of a white cube gallery. It is also true that for many photographers, the ideal way to present a project is in book form. The curators sought a way of meeting these two challenges whilst also producing a show that engages with the concept of space - from a variety of different approaches, whether conceptual, documentary or narrative.

The resulting exhibition involves the coordination of a group of slide-shows - both analogue and digital - of differing scales, positions and durations. The slide-show format will synthesise the experience of seeing photography both in print and on walls. This format will also allow photographers to represent their series more closely within a non-print context, whilst also honouring the needs and spirit of Intervention Gallery: a respect for the fragile architecture the gallery inhabits and an emphasis on the site-responsive exhibitions. This method of presentation encourages a committed and sustained engagement on the part of the viewer; it complements the work rather than hindering it. Visitors will be able to travel through projects at their own pace and along their own route, as they too become participants in the time-based nature of the exhibition. Some slide-shows will require visitors to be seated individually; others are more communal. The sound of the analogue slide projectors provides a nostalgic soundtrack to the still – yet constantly moving - images on the walls.

The work of participating artist, John Maclean, has been described as asking the viewer 'to suspend for a time the too-rapid picking and discarding that we all do in defence against the sheer volume of photographic imagery that we see' [Francis Hodgson - Financial Times]. For *Continuum*, Maclean shows work from his ongoing 'City' project which he describes as 'A "city" built on the foundations of an inherently surreal medium that can't help but veil, dislocate, displace and abstract". Confusing, yet enigmatic in their fragmentations, his

images decontextualise the elements of the urban landscape we ignore. Internationally exhibited Gabriel Benaim's work explores similar themes. Showing work from his 'Tel Aviv at 100' series, the artist describes his work as an 'act of framing [that] transposes a commonplace object into a work of art'. Made with a large-format camera and shot in black and white, these beautifully precise compositions encompass the act of encountering a city anew, daily, whilst searching for its soul.

For further details and images visit www.interventiongallery.org/continuum

All enquiries to intervention.gallery@gmail.com

With thanks to the Friends of Kensal Green Cemetery and the General Cemetery Company.